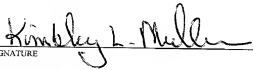


FORM PTO-1390 (REV 10-2000)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER TS0766 US
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U.S. APPLICATION NO (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)	09/914062
		INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 22 February 2000	
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP00/01467			
TITLE OF INVENTION: GAS-SOLID SEPARATION PROCESS			
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US DRIES, Hubertus, W.A.; GALLOWAY, Charles, R.; VEERMAN, Johannes, M.M.			
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to promptly begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (PCT Article 31). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). 			
Items 11 to 16 below concern document(s) or information included:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. <input type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: -postcard for date stamping purposes only 			
U.S. APPLICATION NO (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO PCT/EP00/01467	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER TS07668 US	

17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted:		CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
Basic National Fee (37 CFR 1.492(a)(1)-(5)): Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1000.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO \$860.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$710.00 international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$690.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100.00			
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =		\$860.00	
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).		\$860.00	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE
Total Claims	13 - 20 =	0	x \$ 18.00
Independent Claims	1 - 3 =	0	x \$ 80.00
Multiple dependent claim(s) (if applicable)			+ \$270.00
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =		\$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.		\$	
SUBTOTAL =		\$860.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).		+	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =		\$	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property)		+	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =		\$	
		Amount to be refunded:	
		charged: \$860.00	
a. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$_____ cover the above fees is enclosed.			
b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. <u>19-1800</u> in the amount of <u>\$900.00</u> to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.			
c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>19-1800</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.			
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.			
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:			
Kimbley L. Muller SHELL OIL COMPANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY P. O. BOX 2463 HOUSTON, TX 77252-2463 713-241-2698 713-241-6617		SIGNATURE  Kimbley L. Muller NAME 27,577 REGISTRATION NUMBER	

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box PCT, Washington, D.C. 20231 on or before the date shown below.

Barbara Fisher
Barbara Fisher
Date: August 22, 2001

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT International Application of :)	
)	
DRIES, Hubertus, Wilhelmus, Albertus;)	
GALLOWAY, Charles, Rotchford; and)	
VEERMAN, Johannes, Michael, Maria)	
Int. Appl No.: PCT/EP00/01467)	
Int. Filing Date: 22 February 2000)	
GAS-SOLID SEPARATION PROCESS)	22 August 2001
)	

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Applicant request entry of the following amendments prior to consideration of the claims pending in the application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend all claims 1-13.

1. (Once Amended) An apparatus for separating solid particles from a suspension of solid particles and vapor, wherein said apparatus comprises:

- (i) a vertical primary cyclone vessel having a tubular housing comprising of a tubular wall section provided with a tangentially arranged inlet for receiving the particles and vapor, and which tubular wall section is open at its lower end and closed at its upper end by means of a cover provided with an opening, wherein the opening is fluidly connected to a gas outlet conduit, which conduit has a gas inlet opening located at the same level as the opening in the cover;